

BOOK REVIEWS.

A TEXT-BOOK OF THE DISEASES OF THE EAR, NOSE AND PHARYNX. By D. B. ST. JOHN ROOSA and BEAMAN DOUGLASS. New York: The Macmillan Company.

This little book is a sort of First Reader on the subject. It is an example of conservative teaching except in one or two places where it seems to buck over the traces to an astounding degree; *e. g.*, "If the bony wall of the sinus is removed, and the membranous wall exposed, no harm results. In fact, this should always be done in order to obtain information about the condition of the interior of the sinus,"—p. 485.

Certain statements should certainly *not* be accepted as true by beginners without personal investigation; *e. g.*, "Its actual value (that of the tuning-fork) in testing the hearing power is chiefly with one tuning-fork, C₂,"—p. 4; "The observer does not look through the opening in the mirror but rather over the rim of it,"—p. 10; "More dependence can be placed upon the appearance of the drum-head and the sensations of the patient than upon the sounds heard through the diagnostic tube,"—p. 37. Later in the book non-dependence on the appearance of the drum-head is especially emphasized; that poulticing is good treatment in either external or middle otitis; "no nasal-spur operation should be left without packing the nasal cavity,"—p. 233; "The best method of treatment is undoubtedly amputation,"—p. 277, for hypertrophy of the faucial tonsil (does not even mention enucleation); in speaking of paracentesis of the drum-head: "The operation when required causes so little pain,"—p. 294; "The diagnostic tube could well be dispensed with in aural practice,"—p. 365; "But the piston syringe, made of metal, is the preferable one for the purpose of removing pus from the ear,"—p. 404; "Fever is present throughout the entire course of mastoid disease,"—p. 462; the description of an operation of opening the mastoid cells without extending the field to the mastoid antrum, p. 475; the recommendation of the use of the

trephine or drill in certain cases of operation on the mastoid, p. 477; the use of the Stacke protector, p. 481.

Certain portions of the book are to be unreservedly commended; such as the description of the causation of the ill-effects constitutionally of mouth breathing, pp. 204-5; the rules for the method of using the nasal douche; the emphasis laid upon the necessity for frequent attention, even daily, by the surgeon in cases of chronic middle-ear suppuration, p. 404.

HENRY A. ALDERTON.

The PRACTICE of GYNÆCOLOGY by EMINENT AUTHORITIES.

Edited by J. WESLEY BOVÉE, M.D., Professor of Gynæcology in George Washington University, Washington, D. C. Octavo, 838 pages. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., Publishers. 1906.

This work is the first of three companion volumes dealing respectively with Gynæcology, Obstetrics and Pediatrics, and is offered to the profession as a practical treatise on the diseases of the generative organs of women and on those of the neighboring organs, the urinary system and rectum. The work has been written by seven contributors.

J. Wesley Bovée has written the chapters on the Developmental Anomalies of the Female Generative Organs, Sterility, Diseases of the Rectum, Anus and the Urinary Tract; J. Riddle Goffe, Menstruation, Displacements of the Uterus, The Vaginal Method of Operating, and the After Treatment and Complications of Abdominal Operations; G. Brown Miller, Uterine Conditions; George H. Noble, Fistulæ, Lacerations of the Perineum and Diseases of the Vulva and Vagina; Benjamin R. Schanek, Diseases of the Tubes and Ovaries exclusive of Infections and Tubal Pregnancy; Thomas J. Watkins, Infections of the Tubes and Ovaries; X. O. Werder, The Examination of Pelvic Contents, The Technique of Abdominal Operations and Extrauterine Pregnancy.

Pathology and bacteriology have been chosen as the chief guides in the classifications of diseases. The classification of endometritis by Miller on this basis seems most rational. He regards only those cases which show actual inflammation as endometritis and does not apply the term loosely to the hypertro-